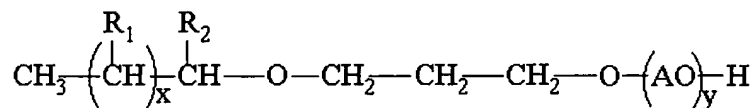


In the Claims

Claims 1-29 (Canceled).

30. (Currently amended) A branched alkanol alkoxylate composition comprising an alkanol alkoxylate represented by the formula:



wherein R₁ represents hydrogen or a hydrocarbyl ~~radical~~ group having from 1 to 3 carbon atoms, R₂ represents a hydrocarbyl ~~radical~~ group having from 1 to 7 carbon atoms, x is a number ranging from ~~0 to 16~~ 3 to 13, A is an alkylene ~~radical~~ group having a carbon number in the range of 2 to 4, y is a number ranging from 1 to 9, wherein the total number of carbon atoms in the alkanol alkoxylate excluding A ranges from 9 to 24.

31. (Currently amended) The branched alkanol alkoxylate composition of claim 30 wherein A is an alkylene ~~radical~~ group having a carbon number in the range of 2 to 3.

32. (Currently amended) The branched alkanol alkoxylate composition of claim 31 wherein A is an alkylene ~~radical~~ group having a carbon number of 2.

33. (Currently amended) The branched alkanol alkoxylate composition of claim 30 wherein R₂ is a hydrocarbyl ~~radical~~ group having 1 carbon atom.

34. (Original) The branched alkanol alkoxylate composition of claim 33 wherein R₁ is hydrogen.

35. (Currently amended) The branched alkanol alkoxylate composition of claim ~~30~~57 wherein x is a number ranging from 3 to 13.

36. (Currently amended) The branched alkanol alkoxylate composition of claim 32 wherein R₂ is a hydrocarbyl ~~radical~~ group having 1 carbon atom.

37. (Original) The branched alkanol alkoxylate composition of claim 36 wherein R₁ is hydrogen.

Claim 38 (Canceled).

Claims 39-46 (Canceled).

~~4749~~. (Currently amended) A detergent composition comprising the alkanol alkoxylate composition of claim 30.

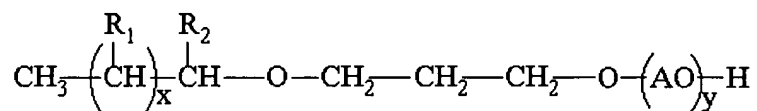
~~4850~~. (Currently amended) A detergent composition comprising the alkanol alkoxylate composition of claim 32.

~~4951~~. (Currently amended) A detergent composition comprising the alkanol alkoxylate composition of claim 33.

Claims 52-56 (Canceled).

Please add the following new claims:

57. (New) A branched alkanol alkoxylate composition comprising an alkanol alkoxylate represented by the formula:



wherein R₁ represents hydrogen or a hydrocarbyl group having from 1 to 3 carbon atoms, R₂ represents a hydrocarbyl group having from 1 to 7 carbon atoms, x is a number ranging from 0 to 16, A is an alkylene group having a carbon number of 2, y is a number ranging from 1 to 9, wherein the total number of carbon atoms in the alkanol alkoxylate excluding A ranges from 9 to 24.

58. (New) The branched alkanol alkoxylate composition of claim 57 wherein R₂ is a hydrocarbyl group having 1 carbon atom.

- 59. (New) The branched alkanol alkoxylate composition of claim 58 wherein R_1 is hydrogen.
- 60. (New) The branched alkanol alkoxylate composition of claim 57 wherein R_1 is hydrogen.
- 61. (New) A detergent composition comprising the alkanol alkoxylate composition of claim 58.
- 62. (New) A detergent composition comprising the alkanol alkoxylate composition of claim 59.